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22 February 1985
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing for Senate Foreign Relations Committee
on Soviet Political and Military Trends

1. On 22 February 1985 at 1000 hours in room S-116 The Capitol, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC), was briefed on Soviet political and military trends as related to arms control. Security was present and a transcript was taken. The briefing was at the Top Secret codeword level.

2. Present from the Committee were:

Richard G. Lugar (R., IN), Chairman
Claiborne Pell (D., RI), Ranking Minority Member
Nancy L. Kassebaum (R., KS)
Paul Sarbanes (D., MD) for first 10 minutes
Daniel J. Evans (R., WA)

3. Present from the Committee staff were:

Jeff Bergner, Staff Director
Geryld Christianson, Minority Staff Director

Graeme Bannerman
John Ritch
Cas Yost

Bill Ashworth
Alex Glicksman
Ken Myers

4. Present from CIA were:

Fritz W. Ermarth

National Intelligence Officer
for USSR

Lawrence K. Gershwin

National Intelligence Officer
for Strategic Programs

Chief, Arms Control Intelligence
Staff, Directorate of Intelligence
Chief, Econometric Analysis Division
Office of Soviet Analysis
Directorate of Intelligence
Deputy Chief, Liaison Division,
Office of Legislative Liaison

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5. Mr. Ermarth led off the briefing by outlining recent Soviet political and economic trends. There was an extensive discussion of Soviet defense spending trends based on the press release of 22 February put out by Senator Proxmire (D., WI) of the Joint Economic Committee (JEC).

25X1 [] responded in detail to questions from Senator Pell and Senator Lugar, emphasizing that the press release and the related story in the Washington Post touched on only a small part of the DDI's testimony before the JEC. He clarified the DI's research and analytic conclusions, and there were no additional follow up questions. (For further detail on Mr. Ermarth's remarks, refer to the DCI Worldwide briefing for Senate Armed Services Committee on 23 January 1985. For additional detail on the DDI testimony on Soviet defense spending trends, see DDI briefing of the JEC on 21 November 1984. Press stories on the defense spending issue are attached.) []

6. Dr. Gershwin followed with a detailed briefing on current trends in Soviet strategic programs. (For additional detail on his briefing, refer to the DCI Worldwide of 23 January already cited.) []

7. Questions from Senator Lugar and Senator Evans, the only two Senators who remained throughout the briefing, focused on the implications of the large Soviet weapons modernization program for coming arms control negotiations.

25X1 [] discussed some of the provisions of the current arms control treaties, and detailed the concerns of the Intelligence Community on monitoring and compliance issues. The Krasnoyarsk radar and the problems it presents in the compliance arena were discussed at length. []

8. The briefing ended at 12:30. There were no follow-up questions. []

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Liaison Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

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